

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification:

Please **AMEND** the specification as shown in the following marked up paragraph, which shows changes made relative to the immediate prior version.

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 3 under the title as follows:

This application is continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/944,273 filed August 31, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/733,566 filed December 8, 2000 and entitled “Continuous Metal Matrix Composite Consolidation, each of which is specifically incorporated by reference in their entireties.

Please **AMEND** the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 6 as follows:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/453,729, filed December 12, 1999 entitled “Cellular Coal Products and Processes” and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. (not yet assigned) 09/902,828, filed July 10, 2001 and entitled “Cellular Coal Products and Processes” both owned by a common assignee describe coal-based cellular or porous products having a density of preferably between about 0.1g/cm^3 and about 0.8g/cm^3 that are produced by the controlled heating and decomposition of coal particulate preferably up to 1mm in diameter in a “mold” and under non-oxidizing atmosphere. According to specifically preferred embodiments, the coal-based starting materials exhibit a “free swell index” as determined by ASTM test D720 of between about 3.5 and about 5.0. The porous products produced by these processes, preferably as a net shape or near net shape, can be readily machined using conventional techniques, adhered

and otherwise fabricated to produce a wide variety of low cost, low density products, or used in their preformed shape. Such cellular products have been shown to exhibit compressive strengths of up to about 6000psi. It is these carbon materials that form core 62 of TPS 60 shown in Figure 2 and described herein.

Please **AMEND** the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 14 as follows:

U.S. Patent Applications Serial Nos. 09/733,566; 09/453,729 and ~~(Serial No. not yet assigned)~~ 09/902,828 filed July 10, 2001 and entitled "Cellular Coal Products and Processes" are all incorporated by reference in their entirety into this specification.

Please **AMEND** the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 7 as follows:

In TPS 60 of the present invention, the foregoing carbon foam thermally insulating/structural member 62 is married to or combined with a continuously brazed aluminum metal-matrix composite. In fabrication, the above-described carbon foam material that forms layer 62 is plasma sprayed or otherwise (thermally, laser, vapor deposition) coated with a layer of aluminum 64, and then brazed onto a continuously-wound or otherwise applied and brazed aluminum matrix structure (AMC), e.g. tubes or tank sections, as described in aforementioned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. ~~(not yet assigned)~~ 09/902,828, filed July 10, 2001, and entitled "Continuous Metal Matrix Composite Consolidation."